

Appln. No. 10/671,214
Amendment dated April 25, 2005
Reply to Office Action mailed January 31, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

1 1. (Currently Amended) A pump discharge conduit system for
2 extending through a wall of a structure to allow a pump to discharge outside
3 of the structure, the pump discharge conduit system comprising:

4 an output conduit being adapted for extending through the wall of the
5 structure, said output conduit comprising an inlet end and an outlet end,
6 said inlet end of said output conduit being adapted for being positioned in
7 an interior of the structure such that said inlet end is in fluid
8 communication with the pump, said outlet end of said output conduit is
9 positioned outside of the structure such that said output conduit is for
10 directing discharge from the pump to the outside of the structure through
11 said outlet aperture;

12 a retaining member being selectively coupled to said output conduit
13 such that said retaining member extends outwardly from said output conduit,
14 said retaining member being adapted for abutting an interior face of the wall
15 of the structure that said output conduit extends through to inhibit sliding
16 of said output conduit with respect to the wall;

17 a backing member being coupled to said output conduit such that said
18 backing member extends outwardly from said output conduit, said backing
19 member being positioned in spaced relationship to said retaining member
20 such that said backing member is adapted for abutting an exterior face of
21 the wall of the structure, said backing member and said retaining member
22 being adapted for pressing against the wall to inhibit sliding of said output
23 conduit with respect to the wall;

24 said backing member being positioned at an oblique angle to said
25 output conduit, said backing member being adapted for abutting against an
26 oblique exterior face of the wall to allow said backing member to apply

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27 force against the wall evenly to prevent said backing member from
28 damaging the wall when said backing member abuts the wall; and
29 a seal member being selectively positioned around said output conduit,
30 said seal member abutting against said backing member such that said seal
31 member is adapted for being positioned between said backing member and
32 the wall of the structure, said seal member being adapted for sealing an area
33 of the wall adjacent said output conduit such that said seal member is
34 adapted for inhibiting environmental elements and insects from entering the
35 structure between the wall and said output conduit;
36 said output conduit comprising a positioning thread, said positioning
37 thread being positioned between said inlet end and said output end, said
38 backing member threadably engaging said positioning thread such that
39 rotation of said backing member with respect to said output conduit changes
40 the positioning of said backing member along said output conduit, said
41 retaining member threadably engaging said positioning thread such that
42 rotation of said retaining member with respect to said output conduit
43 changes the positioning of said retaining member along said output conduit
44 to permit said backing member and said retaining member to be adjusted to
45 accommodate the wall positioned between said backing member and said
46 retaining member.

2. through 5. (Cancelled)

1 6. (Previously Presented) The pump discharge conduit system as set
2 forth in claim 1, further comprising:
3 said seal member comprising a flexible material, said flexible material
4 being adapted for conforming to a shape of the wall and filling any gaps
5 between the wall and said output conduit to inhibit the environmental
6 elements and insects from entering the structure between the wall and the
7 output conduit.

7. (Cancelled)

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1 8. (Original) The pump discharge conduit system as set forth in
2 claim 1, further comprising:

3 said output conduit comprising an exterior outlet thread, said exterior
4 outlet thread being positioned adjacent said outlet end of said output
5 conduit such that said exterior outlet thread is positioned in an exterior
6 surface of said output conduit, said exterior outlet thread being adapted for
7 being threadably engaged by a female drainage coupling to allow drainage
8 piping to be coupled to said output conduit to direct the discharge from the
9 pump away from the output conduit.

1 9. (Original) The pump discharge conduit system as set forth in
2 claim 1, further comprising:

3 said output conduit comprising an interior outlet thread, said interior
4 outlet thread being positioned adjacent said outlet end of said output
5 conduit such that said interior outlet thread is positioned in an interior
6 surface of said output conduit, said interior outlet thread being adapted for
7 being threadably engaged by a male drainage coupling to allow drainage
8 piping to be coupled to said output conduit to direct the discharge from the
9 pump away from the output conduit.

1 10. (Original) The pump discharge conduit system as set forth in
2 claim 1, further comprising:

3 said output conduit comprising an exterior inlet thread, said exterior
4 inlet thread being positioned adjacent said inlet end of said output conduit
5 such that said exterior inlet thread is positioned in an exterior surface of
6 said output conduit, said exterior inlet thread being adapted for being
7 threadably engaged by a female discharge coupling to allow discharge
8 piping from the pump to be coupled to said output conduit to direct the
9 discharge from the pump into the output conduit.

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1 11. (Original) The pump discharge conduit system as set forth in
2 claim 1, further comprising:

3 said output conduit comprising an interior inlet thread, said interior
4 inlet thread being positioned adjacent said inlet end of said output conduit
5 such that said interior inlet thread is positioned in an interior surface of
6 said output conduit, said interior inlet thread being adapted for being
7 threadably engaged by a male discharge coupling to allow discharge piping
8 from the pump to be coupled to said output conduit to direct the discharge
9 from the pump into the output conduit.

12. through 17. (Cancelled)

1 18. (Previously Presented) The pump discharge conduit system as set
2 forth in claim 1, further comprising:

3 said backing member being integrally coupled to said output conduit
4 such that said backing member extends outwardly from said output conduit,
5 said retaining member being positioned in spaced relationship to said
6 backing member such that said backing member is adapted for abutting an
7 exterior face of the wall of the structure, said backing member and said
8 retaining member being adapted for pressing against the wall to inhibit
9 sliding of said output conduit with respect to the wall.

19. (Cancelled)

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20. (Original) The pump discharge conduit system as set forth in claim 8, further comprising:

said output conduit comprising a positioning thread, said positioning thread being positioned between said inlet end and said output end, said retaining member threadably engaging said positioning thread such that rotation of said retaining member with respect to said output conduit changes the positioning of said retaining member along said output conduit to permit said backing member and said retaining member to be adjusted to accommodate the wall positioned between said backing member and said retaining member.

21. (Currently Amended) A pump discharge conduit system for extending through a wall of a structure to allow a pump to discharge outside of the structure, the pump discharge conduit system comprising:

an output conduit for extending through the wall of the structure for directing discharge from the pump to the outside of the structure, the output conduit comprising an inlet end for positioning in an interior of the structure and an outlet end for positioning outside of the structure;

wherein the output conduit has an exterior surface, the exterior surface having an inlet portion located adjacent to the inlet end and an outlet portion located adjacent to the output end, the exterior surface of the output conduit having a medial portion located between the inlet portion and the outlet portion of the exterior surface;

wherein the exterior surface of the output conduit has an inner intermediate portion between the medial portion and the inlet portion of the exterior surface, and the exterior surface of the output conduit has an outer intermediate portion between the medial portion and the outlet portion of the exterior surface;

wherein each of the inlet, outlet, and medial portions of the exterior surface is exteriorly threaded; and

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wherein each of the inner intermediate portion and outer intermediate portion of the exterior surface is smooth and free of exterior threads;

a backing member having an aperture through which the output conduit extends, the backing member being removably coupled to the medial portion of the exterior surface of the output conduit by interior threads formed on the aperture of the backing member;

wherein the backing member has a substantially planar inward surface extending radially outwardly from the aperture of the backing member toward an outer perimeter of the backing member;

wherein the inward surface of the backing member is oriented at an oblique angle to a longitudinal axis of the output conduit when the backing member is threaded onto the exterior surface of the output conduit for permitting the backing member to abut against an oblique outer surface of the wall in a substantially uniform manner.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) The pump discharge conduit system as set forth in claim [[[22]]] 21, further comprising a retaining member having an aperture through which the output conduit extends, the ~~output conduit~~ retainer member being removably coupled to the medial portion of the exterior surface of the output conduit by interior threads formed on the aperture of the retaining member such that the retaining member is capable of acting in opposition to the backing member when the wall is positioned between the backing member and the retaining member.

24. (Currently Amended) The pump discharge conduit system as set forth in claim [[[22]]] 21, further comprising a seal member positioned against the inward surface of the backing member for positioning between the backing member and the wall when the output conduit is positioned through the wall.

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1 25. (Currently Amended) A pump discharge conduit system for
2 extending through a wall of a structure to allow a pump to discharge outside
3 of the structure, the pump discharge conduit system comprising:

4 an output conduit for extending through the wall of the structure for
5 directing discharge from the pump to the outside of the structure, the output
6 conduit comprising an inlet end for positioning in an interior of the
7 structure and an outlet end for positioning outside of the structure;

8 wherein the output conduit has an exterior surface, the exterior
9 surface having an inlet portion located adjacent to the inlet end and an
10 outlet portion located adjacent to the output end, the exterior surface of the
11 output conduit having a medial portion located between the inlet portion and
12 the outlet portion of the exterior surface, each of the inlet, outlet, and
13 medial portions of the exterior surface being exteriorly threaded;

14 a backing member having an aperture through which the output conduit
15 extends, the ~~output conduit~~ backing member being removably coupled to the
16 medial portion of the exterior surface of the output conduit by interior
17 threads formed on the aperture of the backing member;

18 wherein the backing member has a substantially planar inward surface
19 extending radially outwardly from the aperture of the backing member
20 toward an outer perimeter of the backing member;

21 wherein the inward surface of the backing member is oriented at an
22 oblique angle to a longitudinal axis of the output conduit when the backing
23 member is threaded onto the exterior surface of the output conduit for
24 permitting the backing member to ~~abut~~ abut against an oblique outer
25 surface of the wall in a substantially uniform manner.

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1 26. (Currently Amended) The pump discharge conduit system as set
2 forth in claim 25, further comprising a retaining member having an aperture
3 through which the output conduit extends, the ~~output conduit~~ retainer
4 member being removably coupled to the medial portion of the exterior
5 surface of the output conduit by interior threads formed on the aperture of
6 the retaining member such that the retaining member is capable of acting in
7 opposition to the backing member when the wall is positioned between the
8 backing member and the retaining member.

1 27. (Previously Presented) The pump discharge conduit system as
2 set forth in claim 25, further comprising a seal member positioned against
3 the inward surface of the backing member for positioning between the
4 backing member and the wall when the output conduit is positioned through
5 the wall.

1 28. (Previously Presented) The pump discharge conduit system as
2 set forth in claim 25 wherein the exterior surface of the output conduit has
3 an inner intermediate portion between the medial portion and the inlet
4 portion of the exterior surface, and the exterior surface of the output
5 conduit has an outer intermediate portion between the medial portion and
6 the outlet portion of the exterior surface; and
7 wherein each of the inner intermediate portion and outer intermediate
8 portion of the exterior surface is smooth and free of exterior threads.